

THE BROKEN COIN

PRODUCED BY THE UNIVERSAL FILM MANUFACTURING COMPANY SHOWN IN THE LEADING MOVING PICTURE THEATRES IN GREATER NEW YORK.

by EMERSON HOUGH

SYNOPSIS. In a music shop Kitty Gray, reporter on the *Newspaper Star*, finds a broken coin. The interrupted inscription it bears is written in Latin which, translated, indicates that something is "unbroken" at present. With the completed inscription might well be added: "Kitty's coin."

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CHAPTER I.

(Continued.)

Go on, go on," said Mains, bending over the counter.

"Crucial cam—what do you know? It is only a guess. 'Crux,' 'cruis-'

"torture,' 'trouble,' 'suffering,' 'torment'—it is something of that. And 'cam—that's a broken word, and I don't know what it is."

"Ripertor—that's all in, anyway. It means 'to look for something,' 'to search for something.' Say it means 'to find' or 'to look for' or 'you will find'—something like that. I wish I had my Latin grammar here!"

"Well, I know anybody you worked on a newspaper should know everything. Go on then."

"Well, thus far it says something about looking for something under the floor, under the pavement of some place of torture or torment."

"'Ind vot next!'"

"'Thesauri—that word's broken across, but it must mean 'thesaurus'—that means 'a collection'—a 'collection of value,' don't you know? Roger's Thesaurus—that's a book we couldn't do without, if we were going to be good critics. That's why he gets so many words nobody ever heard."

"The next line is one word; it's all there—'Regis,' she went on. 'That's plain. 'Regis'—it means 'king's' or 'of the king.' The king's treasures'—what?"

"'On! Maybe we found somethin' here,'" said Mains. "I'll tell you what I do. Miss Gray! I give you twenty dollars for dot coin right now, and you should keep the fan!"

"How could you, Mr. Mains? Don't I want to know all about this as much as you do?"

"Well, go on, then. Ven you begin to talk about treasure and kings and things, and I think I have given you a coin like dot—you might sold it back to me for forty dollar."

"No, you don't," said Kitty Gray, laughing. "A trade is a trade. Wait till we find out what it means. I'm down to the last words now. It is curious—a proper name of some place perhaps. 'Gratjovenski' I have—'Gratjovenski.' Now what in the world does that mean? In Latin 'E' is 'I.' 'Hovenalski'—hoh! I call this German or some other language if this was trying to float a loan in this

country. I had to read up a whole lot."

"But you could do it, Miss Gray," said Mains admiringly.

"Yes? It is an old, old little place, and it was in trouble over its finances—I remember the story. Well, if I find anything I'll let you know. Mr. Mains, I am getting along. You have only left me twenty cents for lunch. Robber!"

"Robber! Robber yourself!" cried the old man. "You take away from me the most valuablest thing I got for years maybe. Was it my fault I could not read this Latinas? My people was poor. I bet you, by gracious,

my son Lublin he shall study Latin in the schools till the cows come home. I should not be robbed this way again by anybody! Well, gooby. Come again and tell me what you find out, like a good girl."

"I did, and turned to leave, her coin clutched tightly in her hand. So intent was she on her purchase that she did not notice she had dropped the package containing the shell-ribbed fan. Vaguely missing the shell-ribbed fan, she emerged into the air, she turned and almost ran into a man who had passed her as she came out. He was a foreign-looking individual, dark of hair and eyes and skin, strongly built, a figure such as one would note. He bowed his countenance enough as he handed her the package she had let fall. Kitty thanked him and hurried on her way. This stranger entered the shop and spoke in some foreign tongue to the old dealer, who shook his head.

"Now said he, answering in English. "I shoot sold i—to dot young lady who vent out. You say saw it in the window dis morning—before you vait till it vos open? How much did I get for it? Find hunter star I give for it. It vos worth double what you lost somethin' of value. You say you know dot? So?"

(To Be Continued.)

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